

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 11, 2010
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY FEBRUARY 9, 2010
CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009–10 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 106

Introduced by Assembly Member Caballero

January 25, 2010

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 106—Relative to the
CAL-FIRE Firefighter Matt Will Memorial Highway.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 106, as amended, Caballero. CAL-FIRE Firefighter Matt Will Memorial Highway.

This measure would designate ~~the~~ *a 5-mile* portion of State Highway Route 156 from State Highway Route 25 to State Highway Route 101 as the CAL-FIRE Firefighter Matt Will Memorial Highway. The measure would also request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost for appropriate signs showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs.

Fiscal committee: yes.

- 1 WHEREAS, Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
2 (CAL-FIRE) Heavy Fire Equipment Operator (HFEO) Fire Captain
3 Matt Will passed away in the line of duty on October 9, 2007, at
4 the age of 30, while battling a fire in Monterey County; and
5 WHEREAS, Matt Will is survived by his mother, father, two
6 brothers, loving wife and high school sweetheart Dianna, son
7 Trysten (12), and daughter Elsie (10); and

1 WHEREAS, Matt Will was born in El Cajon, California on
2 March 13, 1977, and was raised in Campo, California. He attended
3 elementary *school* through high school in Campo where he
4 participated in many sports including football, baseball, and
5 wrestling. He enjoyed many outdoor activities, such as camping,
6 fishing, hunting, and off-roading. After graduating from high
7 school, Matt Will helped run his family business where he became
8 proficient at operating heavy equipment; and

9 WHEREAS, HFEO Gary Will, father of Matt Will, is employed
10 by CAL-FIRE. Matt Will followed in his father's footsteps as he
11 pursued the career of his dreams as a HFEO by applying his
12 passions for heavy equipment and ~~fire fighting~~ *firefighting*. He
13 was always charismatic and caring, and his drive and motivation
14 were displayed daily. Matt Will's leadership skills carried him to
15 reach his goals and to encourage others to reach theirs; and

16 WHEREAS, Matt Will was extremely knowledgeable, with
17 abundant experience and excellent judgment that enabled him to
18 be on the fireline operating alone. On October 8, 2007, HFEO Matt
19 Will tried to get another bulldozer out of a precarious situation,
20 placing him in a very dangerous location. The ground of the steep
21 terrain gave way, causing Matt Will's bulldozer to roll 154 feet
22 down a steep drainage, in which Matt Will sustained injuries. On
23 October-9th 9, Matt Will succumbed to those injuries; and

24 WHEREAS, Matt Will exemplified the professionalism, work
25 ethic, dedication, and self-sacrifice for which CAL-FIRE
26 firefighters are known. He touched the lives of many and is sorely
27 missed by all who knew him. He will never be forgotten; now,
28 therefore, be it

29 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
30 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature recognizes the
31 contributions of CAL-FIRE Firefighter Matt Will to the people of
32 California and designates ~~the a five-mile~~ portion of State Highway
33 Route 156 from State Highway Route 25 to State Highway Route
34 101 as the "CAL-FIRE Firefighter Matt Will Memorial Highway";
35 and be it further

36 *Resolved*, That the Department of Transportation is requested
37 to determine the cost of appropriate signs, consistent with the
38 signing requirements for the state highway system, showing this
39 special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate

1 sources sufficient to cover the cost, to erect those signs; and be it
2 further
3 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
4 of this resolution to the Department of Transportation and to the
5 author for appropriate distribution.

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